

Appln. No. 10/074,032
Amendment dated 11/19/03
Reply to Office Action dated 10/3/2003

simultaneously herewith and entitled "Method of Making a Tubular Element and Product, Particularly Bird Feeder Hopper, Produced Thereby" (Attorney Docket 6208/P67598US0), the subject matter of which is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Amended) The bird feeder of claim 3 20, wherein each of said feed ports include a semicircular cap extending into said internal cavity of said hopper.

6. (Original) The bird feeder of claim 5, wherein said hopper is made of plastic.

7. (Original) The bird feeder of claim 6, wherein said hopper is transparent.

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8. (Original) The bird feeder of claim 7, wherein said hopper is tubular.

9. (Original) The bird feeder of claim 8, wherein said hopper is cylindrical.

10. (Amended) The bird feeder of claim 20, wherein said hanger is a wire loop having opposed ends secured to said cover.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Amended) The bird feeder of claim 20, wherein said slots defined in said bottom portion of said hopper are inverted L-shaped slots each of which includes a first part extending upwardly from a lower edge of said hopper and a second part laterally offset from the upper end of said first part, whereby said first parts of said slots can be slid downwardly over said pins and then said hopper can be twisted relative to said base to engage said pins in said second parts of said slots.

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17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (New) A bird feeder comprising a housing, a hopper carried by said housing for receipt of bird food, and a hangar for attaching said housing to a support for the bird feeder,

said housing comprising a wire cage having top portions and bottom portions and defining a multiplicity of apertures, a cover secured to said top portion of said cage, and said hangar secured to said cover,

said housing further including a base removably secured to said bottom portions of said cage,

said hopper being carried by said base inside said cage for removal from said cage with said base and including open top and bottom portions and defining an internal cavity for receipt of the bird food, a plurality of spaced feed ports in said hopper intermediate said top and bottom portions, said feed ports communicating with said internal cavity of said hopper, and selected apertures in said cage being aligned with said feed ports,

portions of said base defining an upwardly extending internal flange, a floor element surrounding and extending outwardly from the bottom of said internal flange, and an external flange extending upwardly from the outer periphery of said floor element,

said bottom portions of said hopper being seated over said internal flange of said base, a plurality of pins extending outwardly at spaced locations about said internal flange, and complementary slots defined in said bottom portions of said hopper to removably connect said hopper to said base by slidingly engaging said slots over said pins,

a plurality of fingers extending outwardly about said bottom portion of said cage, and complementary grooves defined in said external flange of said base to removably secure said cage to said base by slidingly engaging said fingers in said grooves,

said grooves defined in said external flange of said base each including a first part extending downwardly at an angle from an upper edge of said peripheral flange, and a second part extending upwardly from the end of said first part, whereby said fingers can be slid downwardly along said first part of said grooves and will slide upwardly into said second parts of said grooves under the influence of gravity pulling said base downwardly.

21. (New) The bird feeder of claim 20, wherein said fingers extending outwardly about said bottom portion of said cage are formed by continuations of wire elements forming said cage.

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Amendments to the Drawings:

A Letter to the Official Draftsman is attached with proposed drawing corrections to Figures 3-5. In Figures 3 and 5, reference numeral "44" has been added. In Figure 4, reference numeral "44'" has been corrected to read - - 44a - -.